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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Rumania

SUBJECT Political Training Center of the Rumanian Army

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Location

- The Political Training Center was installed in the barracks which until 23 Aug 44 had been occupied by the organization, Labor of the Rumanian Youth (MTR). The barracks were located northwest of the Breaza village (Breaza-de-Sus), in the Campina district (raion), about 200 meters distant from the national highway Ploesti-Sinaia-Brasov.
- The following categories of workers are trained at the Center:
 - Workers, or poor villagers (peasants) recruited from the Party ranks for outstanding political merits are considered qualified to become political officers or commanding officers at the various military units.
 - Privates and noncommissioned officers, under military training, considered to be worthy of becoming political officers.
 - Combat officers from either the Military Academy or the Technical Academy are sent to the Center to complete their political studies.
 - Reserve officers or officers no longer on active duty, after they have been submitted to a long investigation and thorough supervision must also be recommended by the Communist Party for their activities while under arms. They are subjected, at the Center, to a course of "adaptation" to the new lines of "people's" military life.

Length of the Training Period

- For those belonging to category a, the courses last three to six months. There are cases in which some elements are kept only seven to 10 days, after which time they are promoted to ranks such as lieutenant, lieutenant major, captain, major or lieutenant colonel. The decision for such promotions rests with the Communist Party, which gives its orders through the Army's High Political Office (Directia Superioara Politica a Armatei-DSPA). For those belonging to category b, the courses have a six to 12 months duration. At the completion of the training period the trainees are promoted to the ranks of lieutenant and lieutenant major. For those belonging to category c, the courses have a duration of 20 to 45 days. For those in category d, the courses last three months. After their completion, the trainees are admitted in the armed forces on the basis of an examination on political subjects. Some of the graduates are given in the army, the same rank which they had previously held (whether as reserve officers

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or career officers). Some others start anew with the rank of lieutenant.

Organization

4. Commander: Colonel Mihai Ionescu former professor at the Political Academy.

Political Commissar: Lieutenant Colonel Ion Vasilescu. A career (regular army) officer in the infantry. He was a prisoner in the USSR and returned to Rumania as a member of the "Tudor Vladimirescu" Division.

Chief of the General Staff: Major Gheorghe Petrescu.

Assistant Commander, in matter concerning the attributions of the Rear: Major Vasile Stan.

Agitation and Propaganda Section: Major Curuz.

Cadre Section: Captain Ion Mercea.

Teaching System

5. The professors lecture on the subjects and the students are given a written text of each lecture. Each student studies the text of the lecture and a discussion on its subject is carried on in groups, when the students discuss the themes stressed in the lectures. The classroom is then assembled under the direction of a political officer who is chief of seminary. According to a given norm, questions are asked and discussions are carried on between students. The chief of the seminary tries as hard as he can to create conflicting discussions. He brings in material which helps the controversy. At the end of the seminary session, a general criticism is made by the seminary chief who stresses the good and the bad parts of the discussions which have taken place.

The Program

6. 5 am - reveille
 5 am to 5:15 am - dressing and making of beds.
 5:15 to 6 - Physical exercises.
 6 to 6:30 - Washing, finishing dressing.
 6:30 to 7 - Breakfast (Coffee).
 7 to 7:30 - Reviewing of the press news.
 7:30 to 12 - Lectures.
 12 noon to 2 pm Lunch; break, during which news papers for the bulletin board are prepared, as well as building placards and other similar activities called "voluntary works".
 2 pm to 6:30 pm - Study, either individually or in group and seminary.
 6:30 pm to 7 pm - Break
 7 pm to 8 pm - Dinner
 8 pm to 9 pm - Recapitulation of day's activities.
 9 pm - Lights out.
7. Organizations and Communist Party's activities at the Center: The trainees of the platoons, members of the Communist Party, are organized into a Party Section. The Party Section has a leading staff composed of five members. The main Party organization is at the Company which also has a leading staff of five members. The Party's Committee of the Training Center has 11 members. Its Secretary is Lieutenant Major Horner. The meetings of the Party organization takes place twice every month for the Party Sections and for the Committee. The Party organizations of the companies meet only once every month. The necessary materials are furnished by the Political Commissar of the Training Center through the offices of the Officer in charge of Agitation and Propaganda. The Political Training Center is under the direct orders of the High Political Office of the army which is part of the Ministry of Armed Forces. The training capacities of the Center allow 1200 to 1500 officers to be instructed.

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